

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF ARGUMENTS TO BE PRESENTED:

1) The present claims are all directed toward a "gaming machine," which is a term of art used to designate a slot machine, video poker machine or other wager based game type machine, and not just any game playing device. Claim 13 limits the gaming machine to the examples specified.

Nikora does not teach a "gaming machine" in this sense, as it only teaches of a cartridge based video game system that does not involve wager based games, such as an Atari system. Nikora certainly does not teach any of the examples listed in Claim 13.

Claim 49 is directed toward "a gaming machine having a master gaming controller" (MGC), which MGC is another term of art specific to the primary CPU of a wager based gaming machine. Thus, Nikora does not teach an MGC either.

Applicants can amend claims to clarify that the claimed gaming machine is wager based.

2) Nikora teaches of cartridges that are inserted into a magazine, which in turn is in communication with a console. Thus, if the console is being considered as a "main communication board" and the cartridges are being considered as the "daughter boards," there is no direct plug in relationship, since a magazine is being used as an intermediary.

Further, Nikora does not teach a "main communication board adapted to facilitate communication via various communication formats." There is only one type of communication format from any cartridge to the console.

3) Various dependent elements not taught by the various combinations of references.

No provided motivation to combine references.

An interview was conducted on the above-identified application on

*Note: This form should be completed by applicant and submitted to the examiner in advance of the interview (see MPEP §713.01). This application will not be delayed from issue because of applicant's failure to submit a written record of this interview. Therefore, applicant is advised to file a statement of the substance of this interview (37 C.F.R. 1.33(b)) as soon as possible.

(Applicant/Applicant's Representative)
Signature)

(Examiner/SPE Signature)